

MEDICATION NAME:	ELTROMBOPAG BRAND: PROMACTA/REVOLADE
HOW IS IT GIVEN:	Oral tablet or suspension taken once daily.
HOW DOES IT WORK:	Binds to the thrombopoietin receptor on megakaryocytes, which stimulates platelet production. Chelates intra-cellular iron to have its effect.
COMMON DOSING REGIMENS:	1-5yo: 25 mg po daily. 6 yo or older: 50 mg po daily. Lower doses may be needed for patients with liver impairment and some patients of Asian ancestry. <u>Maximum Dose:</u> 75 mg per day. <u>Dose adjustments:</u> made to maintain a platelet count between 50 - 150 x 10 ⁹ /l depending on signs, symptoms and activity level. Dose reduction indicated for platelet count >250 x 10 ⁹ /L. ASA or another drug may be indicated for some patients with a high platelet count to reduce the risk of thrombosis.
COMMON SIDE EFFECTS:	Nausea, increased liver enzymes, headache, rash.
RARE BUT SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS:	Platelet count may drop suddenly if drug stopped abruptly. Thrombosis (blood clots) and hepatotoxicity (liver injury) have been reported; bone marrow reticulin (fibrous scarring) is rare.
TYPICAL TIME TO RESPONSE:	1-3 weeks.
LIKELIHOOD OF INITIAL RESPONSE:	Approximately 50-90% of patients have an initial response (platelet count >50 x 10 ⁹ /L).
LIKELIHOOD OF LONG-TERM RESPONSE (3-5 YEARS):	Approximately 80% of patients who respond initially maintain a platelet count >50 x 10 ⁹ /L if treatment is continued. The prevalence of sustained remission off treatment has not been established.
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:	Must be taken on an empty stomach at least 1-2hr before a meal and 2-4hr before calcium containing foods OR 2h after a meal and 4h after foods with calcium. Calcium will reduce the performance of the drug. CBC weekly until stable dose is established; then testing may be less frequent. Regular eg monthly monitoring of liver enzymes is recommended.

References:

1. Gonzalez-Porras, J., and Bastia, J.M. (2018). Eltrombopag in immune thrombocytopenia: efficacy review and update on drug safety. Therapeutic Advances in Drug Safety 9(3):263-285.
2. Platelet Disorder Support Association <https://pdsa.org/platelet-growth-factors.html>
3. Promacta <https://www.us.promacta.com/>